Intimate Talks With Representative Authors-Books About Americas

Neighbors at North and South Chronicles of Our Own Land

By Willis Fletcher Johnson

Our Southern Neighbors
The Mexican Problem During and After the War and After the War and After the War are since the fall of the Diaz Ever since the fall of the United at fair netween the side of the United at fair netween the side of the United at fair netween the forces of Villa, Carranza, tween the for Ever since the fall of the Diaz regime Mexico has been something of a thorn in the side of the United a thorn in the side of the United a thorn in the side of the United a states. The lives and property of foreign residents of the Southern republic were decidedly insecure during the prelenged civil war which raged between the forces of Villa, Carranza, Huerta, and other lenders; and several times it appeared that American intervention was inevitable. The great war naturally pushed the Mexican problem into the background; but lately the demand for American intervention has been renewed in certain quarters.

ion has been renewed in certain quarters.

Mr. Trowbridge does not sympathize with this demand, although he freely admits the trials and grievances to which foreign investors in Mexico have been subjected. He maintains that the Carranza government is restoring order and normal conditions as fast as can reasonably be expected and that entside interference cannot conceivably improve the situation. He estimates the foreign claims for damages at approximately forty million dollars and points out that the Mexican government can easily meet this chligation if trade and industry continue to improve during the next few years. As for the friction which has arisen over the nationalization of Mexican natural resources and the restriction of privileges formerly enjoyed by foreign capital, the author maintains that there is need for tolerance and consideration on both sides. The Mexican people have undoubtedly been exploited to some extent on account of the concessions which were granted so lavishly under Diaz. At the same time foreign capital is absolutely necessary for the development of Mexican industry; and this capital has a

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SHOULD READ THE GREAT HUNGER

The Federalists were concerned to draw tighter the bonds of union which had already been tied, and to strengthen a cooperation already begun. . Their object was to create a nation; the object of a league of nations is, not to create a nation but to create a league between independent nations for certain defined purposes. . . The European states have not yet IF SEEKING

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WILLIAM DEAN HOWELLS says: "This is a masterpiece."

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their national claims to the Peace Conference.

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reached the "jumping off point" of the framers of the American Constitution.

The book would be well worth while if it contained nothing more than those the now pending scheme.

Same observations. But it contains vastly more, including appendices giving the texts of various programmes and utterances bearing directly upon the now pending scheme.

American History

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Novelist : Historian :

A SOCIETY OF STATES. By W. T. S. Stally-brass. Small 8vo. pp. viiii. 243 E. P. Dutton & Co.

It would be a great mistake, though some there be who make it, to regard the scheme of a league of nations which was formulated by General Smuts, sponsored by Lord Robert Cecil and advocated by President Wilson as the first ever propounded to the world. There have been many, since and perhaps even before the classic days of Greece. Mr. Stally-brass does not review them all. Indeed, he does not essay any history of them. But he does give a sufficient history of the development and application of the idea to afford us a coherent and illuminating setting for his consideration of the pending scheme.

Most pertinent is his discussion of the essential principles of sovereignty, of independence and of equality in and among the members of such a league, and his indication of the extent to which they would be modified by the formation of it. In this he makes much use of the example of the Thirteen States at the adoption of the Constitution; perhaps too much use, since the attempt to draw a significant analogy between that union and the league which is now proposed is the most illogical and stultifying that fatuousness ever undertook. This, indeed, the author seems to recognize, since near the end of the discussion he justly says:

The Federalists were concerned to

"In my new novel, 'Democracy,' there is not a single word of sociological propaganda. I work out my theme through depicting the life of my characters."

"But why do you think the novel of the future will be sociological?"

"Because more and more people are gaining a real passion for living. Let me take the war for an example—but first let me digress at bit. This was brought home to me—a sort of confirmation of my already formed belief—when I lectured to the soldiers of the 108th New York Division on my way over, and those boys, many of them very young, delightful fellows—I met a lot of them—asked me the most searching and thoughtful questions about world problems. But, as I was saying, the war has intensified this growing passion for living. It has come to us for one and only one great purpose—you will see that I am a hopeless optimist—the destruction of that mysterious, spiritual, arterio-sclerosis, that tremendous materialism which has been the result of the introduction of machinery, of feverish production.

"You will be interested to know," Mr. Desmond added as we parted, "that my novel, 'Democracy,' which deals with the period before, during and after the war, was written and accepted by my English publishers

"that my novel, 'Democracy,' which deals with the period before, during an millions, he also is given and after the war, was written and accepted by my English publishers for after-war publication, two years ago. In it I foresaw the outcome masters of high finance. Rockefell of the struggle, and I have not had to change one single word,"

My path next led me to the door of Irvin Cobb, or rather to the office of his publishers, the George H. Doran Company.

I wanted to ask him some personal questions about the life of a war correspondent, and I also had a query in the back of my mind which I intended to put to him-if I dared. But that is, as Kipling says, another story; at least it comes further down in this narrative.

When I voiced my question, Mr. Cobb promptly answered: "You know the war correspondent in this war is a far different

person from what he has ever been in any war before."

Having read "The Glory of the Coming," I agreed.

"The war correspondent of former wars," Mr. Cobb continued, "used to be pictured as dashing boldly into battle on a white charger, and then

"The war correspondent of former wars," Mr. Cobb continued, "used to be pictured as dashing boldly into battle on a white charger, and then rushing book to write his impressions. He was able to take in at a glance the whole battle, and make a pen picture of it much as an artist would draw one. But in those days there were only a few thousands engaged on each side. This has been a war of millions, with battleftonts extending hundreds of miles. So the present war correspondent, if felt, must content himself with vignettes. The whole story of the war was so tremendous that only posterity could view it from the pages of history."

"You lived with the soldiers?"

"You wish and we went 'over the top' with them."

Then—I knew it would out—I asked him the question, while trembled at my temerity.

"Surely, I was, and I don't care who knows it. You may shout it from the housetops if you wish. So were they all, except those who were lying. Among soldiers there are three kinds of men. Out of every hundred there is perhaps one man who is so imperfectly adjusted nervously that he cannot stand the roar of battle, the uncertainty of life and death. His imagination pictures possible horrors which are too terrible for his nerves to endure. He efter runs away, and he is to be more pitied than censured, for the trouble is not spiritual, it is pathological. Then out of that hundred there is perhaps one more who is so unimplication, and the process of the work of the restriction of this interest from levels and death. His imagination pictures possible horrors which are too terrible for his nerves to endure. He efter runs away, and he is to be more pitied than censured, for the trouble is not spiritual, it is pathological. Then out of that hundred there is perhaps one more who is so unimplication of the interest of the pathological than out of that hundred there is perhaps one more who is so unimplication. The pathological is the pathologi

Seldom does one find the combination of a poet, whose exquisite Indian poems have recently appeared in an anthology called "The Path of the Rainbow" (Boni & Liveright), the author of a charming novel, 'Good Morning, Rosamond!" (Doubleday, Page & Co.), which has been dramatized, and a historian, whose "Pioneers of the Old Southwest" (soon to be published by the Yale University Press as one of its fiftyvolume series of American histories) is conceded to be one of the most entertaining and valuable volumes of the history of that period. Such is Miss Constance Lindsay Skinner.

"We Americans in general know too little about our history," she said. "Too frequently, as it is taught in our schools, it is dull, biassed and untrue. A knowledge of American history is vital to every American, because it is as an American that he faces the problem of life. There is a reason for Americanism and that reason is a part of history."

"You mean that a knowledge of one's country's past is invaluable for an understanding of what the future may be?"

"Yes, and the significance of his national past in its relation to his present has been obscured to the American by badly written history. The school authorities and the librarians, I am thankful to say, are now busily discarding volumes of prejudice and propaganda.

"The parochial histories are the most dangerous of all, because they have inculcated the foolish doctrine that America is so separated from the family of nations that she is not influenced by the progress or retrogression of the rest of the world. When was not America not affecting

and not being affected by the Old World?" 'You believe that even though the ocean separates us from the Old World we cannot stand alone?"

"The principle of Americanism is not local, for Americanism is not nationalism, as Germanism, for instance, is nationalism. Americanism, on the contrary, opens gates, doors and windows to let who will come in and prove its declaration that all men-not only Americans-are free and possess inalienable rights. After all, Lincoln, son of the frontier, expressed what I think much better than I can. He said-let me read It to you-'The American who does not know the history of his country is handicapped, whatever his walk in life may be. For he is cheated of that genuine self-knowledge which is the first step toward success

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Mr. Desmond looked like anything but a voice cryping in the difference who make it, to regard the scheme of a league of nations was the sense of a league of nations which was formulated by Lord Robert

Souths, apparent of the Project of the world. There have been many, which was formulated by General Souths, apparent of the properties of the revolution of the period of the properties of the Project of the world. There have been many history of them. But he deeg give a sufficient but world. There have been many history of them. But he deeg give a sufficient but world. There have been many history of the development and appearance of the propagation. The world was a service of Current Literature of the Constant of the Project of the Spanish Conqueracy, "dealing to the History and Diplosophy of the Project of the Spanish Conqueracy," dealing the person of Shaw Desmond, an Irish writer, whose serious study of Den. Recently a new light has arisen in the firmament of fiction in the person of Shaw Desmond, an Irish writer, whose serious study of Den. Recently a new light has arisen in the firmament of fiction in the person of Shaw Desmond, an Irish writer, whose serious study of Den. Recently a new light has arisen in the firmament of fiction in the first of the Constant of the Project of the Constant of the Project of the Constant of the History of the American History of the Constant of the History of the Machine," by Walliam E. Den. The Constant of the Constant o

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